

Sinclair Broadcasting's decision to force its stations to air an anti-Kerry documentary days before the election is a clear example of the dangers of media consolidation.

Sinclair uses the public airwaves free of charge, and is obligated by law to serve the public interest. The "documentary" that Sinclair wants its stations to air is nothing but a political commercial poorly disguised as news. When large companies control the airwaves, we get more of what's good for the bottom line and less of what we need for our democracy. Local stations should air news that is relevant to the local community, not slanted political messages from a far away corporate giant.

Sinclair's actions show why we need to strengthen media ownership rules, not weaken them. They show why the license renewal process needs to involve more than a returned postcard. Thank you.